5. 7227/7228 Vasco-Vijayawada Express to Howrah (4 days a week)

6. 8507/8508 Visakhapatnam-Nizamuddin Hirakud Express to Amritsar.

Increase in Frequency:

1. 2811/2812 Hatia-Lokmanya Tilak (T) Express from weekly to bi-weekly.

2. 5625/5626 Bangalore-Guwahati Express from bi-weekly to tri-weekly.

New rail line between Mehsana-Ambaji

†3784. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any action to conduct survey of new railway line between Mehsana-Ambaji *via* Taranga;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) A survey has been taken up for gauge conversion of Mehsana-Taranga Hill (57 kms.) with extension from Taranga Hill to Ambaji (55 kms.)

Rail fares

3785. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has announced that rail fares would not be raised, but indirectly the railways are taxing the passengers by way of increase in cancellation of reservation charges, charging additional fares on recently names super-fast trains, increase in the reservation charges, etc.;

(b) whether a passenger is not issued a ticket for any en-route station if the train does not stop there, as against the earlier practice of issuing such tickets upto main halts en-route;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.